



City of New Bedford
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

City Announces Targeted Code & Nuisance Enforcement Initiative

New Bedford, Massachusetts—At a press conference in City Hall today, New Bedford officials announced plans to implement a citywide neighborhood improvement initiative designed to enhance the quality of life for all New Bedford residents through aggressive enforcement of city code and nuisance ordinances. Mayor Scott W. Lang has assembled a “Targeted Code & Nuisance Ordinance Enforcement Team” comprised of several city departments including the Office of Inspectional Services, the Police and Fire Departments, the Office of Housing and Community Development, the Health Department, and both the Department of Public Facilities and Public Infrastructure. In the coming weeks, city staff will thoroughly canvass New Bedford neighborhoods, document visible code and nuisance ordinance violations, and issue citations for the related offenses. Inspectors will issue citations for violations including but not limited to:

- Abandoned and unregistered vehicles
- Exterior building code infractions, zoning violations, improperly boarded vacant buildings, unkempt vacant lots, and health and sanitary code violations—particularly trash and litter
- Fire safety hazards

City officials noted that the penalties for such offenses include fines of up to \$300.00 per day. In addition, The Southeast Housing Court has agreed to set aside Thursday afternoons to hear appeals cases related to the documented New Bedford violations

“As citizens of New Bedford we need to work together to improve the quality of life in our city and a great start to achieving that objective is to foster clean revitalized neighborhoods,” said Mayor Lang.

The City will send homeowners and business owners a notice along with next month’s water bill that will outline common trash, zoning and exterior code violations and will describe how to avoid the associated fines.